

Vol. 45—No. 26

September 4, 1954

Church of God
Evangel



Church of God Evangel

Official organ of the Church of God

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Published Weekly by
The Church of God Publishing House
Cleveland, Tennessee—Phone 3600
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WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.
2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.
4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.
5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.
6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.
7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.
8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.
9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.
10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.
11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.
12. In the Lord's Supper; and washing of the saints' feet.
13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.
14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

Single Subscription, per year	\$1.50
Single Copy05

Entered as second-class matter under act of March 3, 1879, at Cleveland, Tennessee. Acceptance for mailing at special rate of postage provided for in section 1103, act of October 3, 1917. Authorized August 23, 1918.

NOTICES

The Tennessee Ministers' Meeting will be held September 21, 22 at the Missionary Ridge Church of God in Chattanooga, Tennessee. The opening service will begin Tuesday at 7:30 p.m.

Anyone having relatives stationed at the Dover, Delaware Air Base, please contact me. Our church is located in Milford, Delaware.—W. Edwin Tull, Pastor, 500 North Walnut Street, Phone - 5324.

COVER PICTURE—Philip Gendreau

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him shall not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16.

Her interest in putting on a radio program which will be a help and inspiration to the woman out yonder doing the daily tasks came from that something added to Mary Margaret McBride's training that gave life its meaning. There was a long line of Baptist preachers on both sides of the house, and religious practice was a part of everyday living. "We absorbed it in the home atmosphere as unconsciously as breathing," said Mary Margaret as we chatted over a cup of tea after the broadcast. "When Mama married, she discovered that Papa's father had debts to pay; Grandpa McBride was a brilliant but impractical man and long an invalid. Mama took care of him as gently as a daughter could. She even saved what she could from her egg money to help pay off his debts."

The result of such heritage is that Mary Margaret refuses to advertise a product unless she actually believes in its worth. She tests every product of her sponsors as carefully as her mother tested recipes on her old-fashioned kitchen stove. The invisible host of ladies in the modern kitchens who listen to her voice know that she refuses to tell even the "teeniest white lie" when she proclaims the virtues of a certain brand of bread, and especially delicious ice cream, or a magic rug cleaner. Because she is rated as a top-ranking salesman and the most listened-to woman on the air, she has a long waiting list of hopeful sponsors clamoring for a few minutes of her hour-long program.—From *MOTHERS OF AMERICA*, by Elizabeth Logan Davis (Fleming H. Revell Company).

It is no accident that such passages as The Lord's Prayer, The Twenty-Third Psalm, and the Gettysburg Address contain many one-syllable words. Ease of understanding, and not beauty of thought alone, contributes to the place which a passage wins in the hearts of men.

Spurgeon told his students that "the costermonger cannot learn the language of the college." That was obvious; no one would dispute it. But many preachers dispute—in practice if not in theory—the conclusion drawn by the evangelist. Granting that market place and college are poles apart, Spurgeon threw down the challenge: "Let the college learn the language of the costermonger!"

Long, technical words are costly. They provide ready-made opportunities not only for lack of understanding, but also for positive misunderstanding. There is a tale to the effect that young Benjamin Franklin had a taste for high-flying words, and he once confronted his mother with the statement: "Mother, I have imbibed an acephalous molluscous." Frightened out of her wits, the good woman promptly forced him to take a huge dose of an emetic. Recovering from the effects of the potent medicine, the boy protested that he had eaten nothing but an ordinary oyster. Angry at having been deceived, his mother gave him a sound thrashing. So Ben made a resolution that he'd never again use big words where little ones would do.

Josh Billings has a famous "affurism" that might have been coined for the pulpit. "Young man," he warned, "when you have tew search Webster's Dickshinnary tew find words big enuff tew convey yure meaning yu kan make up youre mind that yu don't mean mutch."—From *THE PREACHER AND HIS AUDIENCE*, by Webb B. Garrison.

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LOST CROWN

By Mrs. P. W. Chesser



"The crown is fallen from our head: woe unto us, that we have sinned," Lamentations 5:16.

THERE ARE CROWNLESS souls by the thousands, ten thousands, and hundreds of thousands to be seen everywhere throughout the length and breadth of our land. The secret is always the same. God meant that every man and every woman should wear a crown.

The crown is a symbol of kingliness, good fortune, and prosperity. God meant that everyone should be a king or a prince in the kingdom of heaven. In the beginning it was decreed that man should have dominion over nature and the lower orders of creation. To him was given the crown of intelligence and the scepter of power found nowhere else in all the world, but he could rule the world only by ruling himself. If he lost dominion over himself, he must lose his crown. God meant that we should be kings and queens in the realm of character.

God's program has been set aside; His plan has been interfered with; and His ideal has not been realized by the vast majority of men and women. Like Napoleon on St. Helena, the crown has fallen from our brow. We have lost our empire. We are forced to acknowledge that we are not what God intended we should be. Sometimes we get visions of man's greatness, and we are inclined to argue that his is an exalted being. Then, in the next moment, we get visions of his impotence, and we are forced to admit that the clay has been mingled with the iron and that weakness has overcome strength. Pascal has said that evidences are everywhere of the great truth that man is a king dethroned. If a vision of Napoleon is a sad one, I am sure that it is not so sad as a vision of many a crownless brow which you and I have seen. Read Revelation 2:11.

As you walked the streets today, you may have seen one, two, or three young men not more than eighteen to twenty-five years of age. All of them were fairly well dressed. One was being helped on board a streetcar by the other two. He was well dressed and exhibited every evidence of having come from a home of social standing, wealth, and power. It was a sad picture, but he was drunk, disgustingly drunk and hideously sick. He was

trailing the banner of what might have been a victorious life in the mire and pollution which never fail to defile the soul to the uttermost. I think of what he had and what he might have been; I think of what God meant him to be; I think of what his mother had hoped him to be; I think of the crowns of intelligence, morality, and successful achievement which he had put from him—all had fallen from his head. He was an abdicated king by his own choice.

YOU HAVE KNOWN businessmen who stood high in the community and who had everything that heart could wish except that their boundless ambitions were not satisfied. All at once it became known that the crown had fallen from the brow of your idolized businessman, and you were shocked. The reason for it lay back in the past.

Think of that banker who for a long time had the confidence of the community. Wage earners and people of every rank in life put their hard-earned savings in his bank. They had absolute confidence in this man. He wore the crowns of esteem, love, and trust. One day everyone was startled and shocked by a notice that the bank had closed its doors. The information came like a thunderbolt out of a clear sky. No one could understand or account for it. After investigation, those who were in position to know said that the whole thing was a gigantic steal. Then the crowns fell from his brow.

People might have forgiven him if he had met with misfortune and had been overcome by adverse circumstances far too strong for his limited power. That was not the case. He had abused their confidence, and his boundless ambition led to the place of abdication. He lost the crowns of respect, confidence, and good will. The people went to the pastor of the church where he had been accustomed to attend divine worship with his family and said, "If that man is to go to your church as he continues to do, we will not go there." The dethroned monarch was given to understand what the verdict of the community was. He was compelled to stay away from the church and to give up the society in which he had moved as king. He was made to feel that he was not

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A CROWN OF LIFE

BROTHER

By J. D. Free

Revelation 2:10, "Be thou faithful unto death, and I will give thee a crown of life."

ONCE EACH YEAR A young American woman is thrilled because she is chosen to reign as "Miss America" and wear the crown which signifies that she is the most beautiful girl in America. In England, Queen Elizabeth proudly wears the crown of the British Empire. In every nation someone is given the crown of power as the highest ruler of his people. In practically every profession of life, someone wears the crown of distinction for outstanding success in some particular field. For these material crowns, man is willing to toil, sacrifice, and suffer. The majority of us may never wear a crown such as these mentioned, but we can obtain a far greater crown—the crown promised to the "faithful,"—a crown of life.

The crown of the Presidency of the United States of America is, perhaps, the greatest honor that can come to a citizen of this Nation. To the one American who, perhaps more than any other, fulfilled the requirements of this high office, I want to call attention and make some comparisons which I feel will inspire us in the struggle of life and in our efforts to win the crown of life for which we are striving.

We admire Lincoln for many things, not the least of which is the fact that he came from a lowly birth. From a one-room log cabin in the mountains of Kentucky, he, through struggles and sorrow, climbed to the stars of fame and greatness, and to the ends of the earth, the inspiring story of his life has thrilled and ennobled millions. Could we not compare his birth, at least in part, with that of the Saviour, who, born in a stable, suffered affliction and indignities at the hand of man, conquered death, arose from the tomb, and ascended back to the Father in power, and He will come again as King of kings?

Biographers tell us that Lincoln was a student, a scholar. Among the many textbooks he studied was the Bible, and from it he gained his broad knowledge of ethical government. He knew the Bible well and quoted from it often. From the Bible he learned the great lesson of human relationships and how people should treat their

fellow man in order to live together in peace. That is the lesson the world needs to learn today. Man knows how to make implements of war capable of destroying mankind from the face of the earth, but he does not know how to get along with his neighbor. Our educators and others are trying feverishly to solve the social problem, but somehow they haven't found the right formula. In all of their research and work, they have overlooked the simple remedy clearly inscribed on the pages of God's Word which were simply stated by Jesus: "Love God with all your soul, mind, and strength, and your neighbor as yourself."

Lincoln was early getting into politics. He ran for the Legislature at the age of twenty-three years and continued his struggle until he won the Presidency. Jesus reminds us that in order to win the crown of life we should begin early. "Remember thy Creator in the days of thy youth."

LINCOLN ACQUIRED a sound philosophy of life. There are three principal points I want to mention.

1. "To elevate the condition of men." This is more than a political creed; it is applied Christianity. When he stated this truth, he had in mind, no doubt, not only the several kinds of serfdom that endanger people industrially, socially, and economically, but also the millions of Negroes who were victims of slavery, for which the bloody Civil War was fought. We can see in this brief statement a close resemblance of the great declaration of our Lord when He read from Isaiah's prophecy and applied the same to Himself. "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor, he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised." In this wonderful passage, we see the great promise of deliverance from slavery—the bondage of sin—for mankind everywhere and for all time through the sacrifice of Christ.

2. "To clear the paths of laudable pursuits for all." Democracy does not miraculously change human nature.

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THE MINISTER'S CALL

By JOSEPH W. WARNER, Pastor, Crockett, Texas

1 Corinthians 12:28-31a, "And God hath set some in the church, first apostles, secondarily prophets, thirdly teachers, after that miracles, then gifts of healings, helps, governments, diversities of tongues. Are all apostles? are all prophets? are all teachers? are all workers of miracles? Have all the gifts of healing? do all speak with tongues? do all interpret? But covet earnestly the best gifts."

Ephesians 4:11-13, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; For the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: Till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ."

In 2 Timothy 1:8, 9, "Be not thou therefore ashamed of the testimony of our Lord . . . Who hath saved us, and called us with an holy calling . . ." 1 Timothy 2:7, "Whereunto I am ordained a preacher . . . and . . . a teacher." 1 Timothy 1:12, "I thank Christ Jesus our Lord, who hath enabled me, for that he counted me faithful, putting me into the ministry."

FROM THESE and many other scriptures which might be adduced, it is clear that God calls His preachers. Some persons seem to imagine that the work of the ministry is a matter of an individual choice like any other profession or calling. I have known personally some parents who urged some one of their sons to attend a theological seminary to prepare for the ministry. Fact is, I have heard some of these man-called ministers try to preach, but I declare to you, it was dry preaching. No man, be he ever so good and wise, has a right to take unto himself this honor.

BRETHREN, in the work of the ministry I have made so many blunders, have failed God so often, and have been so unworthy in the past that it is with no little degree of humility that I venture the following suggestions. Take them for what they are worth, and may God bless you.

To start with, a preacher should be a real man. There are two things I cannot endure. One is a mannish woman and the other a womanish man. I think every person who is not a woman ought to be a man. God's minister should be too big a man to put on such an effeminate act. His heart, lips, and hands should he always keep clean. His speech especially should forever and always be chaste. I have more respect for a man who "cusses" than for a man who tells vulgar jokes. Outside the pulpit the tongue and lips which proclaim the Word of God and Christ should always be kept clean from the devil's trash can. The heart which pours forth in gospel message from the sacred desk should be kept pure day and night and be as white as the driven snow.

A minister should be very careful to keep out of debt as much as possible. Oh, the preachers on the junk pile

today who would not be there if they had been more cautious along this line. If a man owes a debt and sees he cannot pay the debt when due, he should beforehand make other arrangements. I maintain that a man can either pay his debts or explain why he can't.

If we ministers have an enemy, we should treat him kindly and never show any spirit of revenge. The Lord said, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay." We should always remember that "A soft answer turneth away wrath." We should never argue over politics. We may exercise our rights as a citizen at the polls, but should not get on the other fellow's rights. Politics has ruined many good preachers.

We should never hold hands with the opposite sex. One time I was visiting a certain church and several times my attention was drawn to the manner in which the minister shook hands with the ladies, especially the younger ones. He would hold to their hands, smile, and talk soft talk. I began to fear for that minister. A few weeks later the news came that he had left his wife and children and had gone away with one of the young ladies of the church. Oh, how my heart went out to that poor innocent girl and her family who had been betrayed by a Judas Iscariot. Oh, my brethren, for the sake of Jesus and a lost and dying world, let us keep our distance from women. Women and money have ruined more preachers than all else put together. Remember God's rule—treat the older women as mothers, and the younger women as sisters. If this simple rule is observed, all will be well along this line.

A minister should not be jealous of his brethren in the same calling. Bernarr Macfadden says that the "green-eyed monster of jealousy is the worst and most vicious devil known to God and man." He is correct, eminently correct. Jealousy between husband and wife has wrecked more homes, blasted more lives, and caused more suicides than almost anything in the world. Jealousy is cruel as hell itself. It is suspicious, envious, and unjust. I have known some preachers who were so possessed with it that they were miserable. They professed holiness, preached entire sanctification—the eradication of the old man and all carnality—yes, professed everything in the book, but at the same time were so jealous that one could almost see it sticking out. They were envious of their brethren if they could beat them preaching or if they had a larger Sunday School or congregation. In their hypocritical faces they would smile, and their words were as soft as butter, but their hearts were cankerous, spiteful, and murderous. God save us from the green-eyed monster of jealousy.

OUR United States' foreign representatives are called ambassadors. They are appointed by our Government to represent us in foreign capitals. When they speak officially, it is the Government of the United States speaking, and the Government stands behind them. If one should betray this confidence, he is recalled and another

takes his place.

My brethren, read in 2 Corinthians 5:20 where the apostle Paul says, "Now then we are ambassadors for Christ, as though God did beseech you by us: we pray you in Christ's stead, be ye reconciled to God." An ambassador, then, is one who speaks for or in the place of another. Brother preacher, you have been divinely commissioned by the government of heaven to represent Christ on earth. He has instructed you what to preach—"Preach the Word." If you substitute something else, you prove yourself unworthy of your commission and become a traitor to the government of God.

We read in Luke 24:46-48, "And thus it behoved Christ to suffer, and to rise from the dead . . . that repentance and remission of sins should be preached in his name among all nations . . . And ye are witnesses of these things." Brother, preach wherever and to whomever you will, but do not forget to preach repentance toward God and faith toward our Lord Jesus Christ. It is just as absolutely necessary for men to repent of their sins today as it was in the days of Christ and the apostles. Man must be born again. But do not stop with this alone; teach "them to observe all things whatsoever I have commanded you."

The whole Bible, from Genesis to Revelation, is the inspired Word of God. Nothing less than the whole Bible will meet the needs of fallen men and women. Upon the full and faithful proclamation of this gospel message depend the salvation of the world and the second coming of our Saviour, Jesus Christ. This all important message does not consist of soothing platitudes or mere intellectual dissertations, but it is a message of life and salvation, death and damnation.

Before any man can powerfully and successfully proclaim this message, he must die to everything and everyone. Listen to the words of Christ in Mark 8:34, 35, "Who-soever will come after me, let him deny himself and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it; but whosoever shall lose his life for my sake and the gospel's, the same shall save it." And in Luke 14:26, "If any man come to me, and hate not his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yea, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." Also, in Galatians 2:20 Paul says, "I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me."

Before any man can be a true New Testament preacher, he must pile all his property, all his plans and ambitions, all his time, all his kinfolk, himself—soul and body—forever on the altar of God and thereafter be a love slave to Jesus Christ and the gospel. A minister of the gospel has neither time for fleshly enjoyments nor time for money-making. He lets the other man see after the material things while he ministers in spiritual things and occupies the position as that of the apostles. In Acts 6:3, 4, it says "Look ye out among you seven men of honest report, full of the Holy Ghost and wisdom, whom we may appoint over this business. But we will give ourselves continually to prayer, and to the ministry of the word."

The Lord does not require you to give up your home and family in the sense of going away and leaving them forever. No, you will love your family with a purer love and devotion than ever before, but He does demand that they shall not stand between you and your ministry. Of

course, if your wife by her godless attitude, life, and conduct, should make it humanly impossible for you to pursue your calling, then you have divine warrant for leaving her forever. Regarding such a case, the Lord says that she that liveth in pleasure is dead while she liveth.

THERE was a man whom God called to preach His Word while he was young. His wife opposed him but for a time he went on preaching anyway even though she made his life a hell on earth. One Sunday morning while he was dressing to go fill an appointment, his wife in a mad rage grabbed his clothes and threw them into the fire—shirt, pants, coats, and all—and burned them. He decided the cross was too heavy and the sacrifice too great, for he loved his wife. In short, he gave up the ministry and turned back to manual labor for bread. He stayed with that devil possessed woman instead of going on with God. They reared a family of children, but what happened? One child is an imbecile, one is in the penitentiary for life, and another died a horrible death. It is heartbreaking to look upon that father—poor, thin, and stooped with years of a wasted life. With his salvation gone, life gone, hope gone, opportunities wasted, children dead or damned, judgment ahead, all that is left is hell, torment, fire, regret, remorse, hopelessness, and eternal despair. May God help those of us who have taken hold of the plow handle not to look back for anything or anyone.

Sometimes the flesh side of our nature calls to us to do as the disciple in Matthew 8:21 wanted to do. In verses 19 and 20 we read, "And a certain scribe came, and said unto him, Master, I will follow thee whithersoever thou goest. And Jesus said unto him, The foxes have holes, and the birds of the air have nests; but the Son of man hath not where to lay his head." I imagine this was very poor encouragement, indeed, to so prominent a man as a scribe. I suppose if he had been one of the modern pastors of today he would, no doubt, have patted that fellow on the back and would have been glad to enroll his name on his church roll. But Jesus, ever faithful to souls, gave the man to understand that this holy gospel way is a "death route." There are no soft, downy beds or gardens of flowers but death to self, to everything, and to everyone.

One of Christ's disciples rushed to Jesus and said, "Lord, suffer me first to go and bury my father." Jesus instantly replied, "Follow me; and let the dead bury their dead." I fear, dear brethren, that we do not realize the importance and urgency of our message that has dawned upon us as we should. God help us to let the dead, sinful world see after its own affairs while we heaven-called, Christ-commissioned, and judgment-bound ministers give ourselves continually to prayer and to the ministry of the Word. Happy is the man who knows his calling and faithfully abides therein.

OUR ENGLISH word "pastor" is an adopted Latin word which means to pasture, to feed or one who has the care of flocks or herds. This meaning is in perfect harmony with Peter's instruction to the elders or pastors to "feed the flock of God which is among you, taking the oversight thereof, not by constraint, but willingly; not for filthy lucre, but of a ready mind; Neither as being lords over God's heritage, but being ensamples (examples) to the flock."

I have been told that some of the shepherds in Palestine
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Those Who Fall

IN A VERY RECENT article, we dealt with the subject of "Eternal Security." Today we should like to bring to you a message on "Those Who Fall From Grace," with the hope that it may help some who are in need of help along this line. For a text let me call your attention to Hebrews 6:4, 6, "For it is impossible for those who were once enlightened, and have tasted of the heavenly gift, and were made partakers of the Holy Ghost, if they shall fall away, to renew them again unto repentance; seeing they crucify to themselves the Son of God afresh, and put him to an open shame."

Men can say what they want to about this scripture, and try to explain it away, but it still speaks and is quite plain. It is not wise to ignore. I believe that this scripture means what it says, and says what it means, as there are many others that will support this scripture without any effort to hide its true meaning.

All will agree that it is a terrible thing for a man to have an experience with his God, and then throw it away and roll in the gutters of sin as before.

Will you not agree that it is a fearful thing for a man to fall from grace? It is more often referred to as "backsliding," but scripturally speaking, we do not backslide in this dispensation. Israel is spoken of as the backslider. Read Jeremiah 3:6-14. We often hear men say God is married to the backslider, but this is speaking to Israel whom God has divorced, and states that He will remarry them. It has no relation to those people who have gone back on their vows and promises in this dispensation.

In dealing with this subject in this New Testament dispensation, it is spoken of as falling, and falling away. Luke 8:13 states "During times of temptation they fell away" and again in Hebrews 4:11, "Lest any man fall after the same example of unbelief."

LET ME BRING this truth to you, there is a difference between "falling" and "falling away." To prove this statement, let me call your attention to 2 Timothy 2:25, 26, "In meekness instructing those that oppose themselves; if God peradventure will give them repentance to the acknowledging of the truth; and that they may recover themselves out of the snare of the devil, who are taken captive by him at his will." According to Webster, the word "peradventure" means by chance; or, there is a chance. This word is taken from the Greek *Maypoteh*; it means "perhaps" or not at all, whether or not. So we see that when a man falls, if he is willing to repent there is a chance, but don't be presumptuous about this matter, as there is only a chance.

Again in 1 John 2:1, 2, "My little children, these things I write unto you, that ye sin not. And if any man sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the

righteous: And he is the propitiation for our sins: and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world." This scripture shows us that it is God's perfect will that we sin not *but if any man sin* we have an advocate with the Father, but it must be used in a real manner and not toyed with.

Again we read in Revelation 2:5, "Remember therefore from whence thou art fallen, and repent, and do the first works; or else I will come unto thee quickly, and will remove thy candlestick out of his place." This is proof that a man may fall, but if he repents quickly, there is a chance.

To carry this thought that a man may fall, and that he yet hasn't fallen away, let me refer you to Galatians 5:4, "Ye are fallen from grace." Notice Proverbs 24:16, 17, "For a just man falleth seven times, and riseth up again: but the wicked shall fall into mischief. Rejoice not when thine enemy falleth, and let not thine heart be glad when he stumbleth." We note that this man fell, but not away. Ecclesiastes 4:9, 10, "Two are better than one; because they have a good reward for their labor. For if they fall, the one will lift up his fellow: but woe to him that is alone when he falleth; for he hath not another to help him up." Jesus said, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." We have Him as a Friend to help us if we want one. If we would have a friend, we must show ourselves friendly.

If we fall, there is a chance if we repent quickly, Revelation 2:5. We are urged to hold fast our crown, because He states that He is coming quickly, Revelation 3:11.

The office work of the Spirit is a wonderful work, and an essential part of this work is to get men to go on to perfection. In Hebrews 6: 7, 8, "For the earth which drinketh in the rain that cometh oft upon it, and bringeth forth herbs meet for them by whom it is dressed, receiveth blessing from God: But that which beareth thorns and briers is rejected, and is nigh unto cursing; whose end is to be burned." The rain that has come oft upon us is the Holy Spirit and bringeth forth herbs meet for those by whom it is dressed receiveth blessing, but he that beareth thorns and briers is rejected.

The man who refuses to go on to perfection grieves the Holy Ghost, and we are told not to grieve the Holy Ghost whereby we are sealed.

When a man who has had an experience of grace goes back into the world in open sin, he insults God's Holy Spirit. That, my Friend, is a tragic thing to do. "My Spirit will not always strive with man" is a law that has never been repealed. Let us note carefully Hebrews 10:26-31, "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more

all From Grace

By D. C. Boatwright

sacrifice for sins. He that despised Moses' law died without mercy under two or three witnesses: Of how much sorer punishment, suppose ye, shall he be thought worthy, who hath trodden under foot the Son of God, and hath counted the blood of the covenant, wherewith he was sanctified, an unholy thing, and hath done despite to the Spirit of grace? For we know him that hath said, Vengeance belongeth unto me, I will recompense, saith the Lord. And again, The Lord shall judge his people. It is a fearful thing to fall into the hands of the living God."

Some have supposed that they can go back into sin at will and come back to Him when they will. But note the Word on this matter. John 6:44, "No man can come to me, except the Father which hath sent me draw him." Again in 1 Corinthians 12:3, "That no man can say that Jesus is the Lord, but by the Holy Ghost." Those who have gone from the Master have learned this lesson—that it is a long, hard road back. So few ever make it back to the place where they were the first time, it isn't so real as before. Ask the man or woman who has had the experience.

FRIEND, THERE IS a great need of keeping clean in order to keep this blessing. Isaiah 52:11, "Be ye clean, that bear the vessels of the Lord." Spiritual filth is the one sure way out—filthy talk, filthy habits, filthy eyes.

There are times when we feel that we don't have too much. Let me warn you, don't lose what you have, as it will seem like a lot after you have lost what you now have. I have heard many use this expression, "I would give anything in the world, if I only felt what I felt one time, if I could only get back where I once was." They say they can't feel the moving of the Spirit as they once did. My Friends, this is the hard way back that we have mentioned before in our sermon.

In 1 Corinthians 3:16, 17, "Know ye not that ye are the temple of God, and that the Spirit of God dwelleth in you? If any man defile the temple of God, him shall God destroy; for the temple of God is holy, which temple ye are." Every time a man falls into some sin, he is in danger of falling away. Each time you fall, you fall a little farther away until, finally, you will fall entirely away; and then you are lost forever. In 1 John 5:16, "There is a sin unto death: I do not say that he shall pray for it." When this happens in the life of an individual, then Hebrews 6:4-6 will be your fate.

In my ministry, I have spoken with men who have said God doesn't hear me any more; there is no feeling, no tug of the Spirit. 1 Samuel 28:6, "And when Saul inquired of the Lord, the Lord answered him not, neither by dreams, nor by prophets." He was one that God re-

jected forever; he fell entirely away, and as terrible as this may seem, this could happen to you unless you are striving to overcome and are walking in all the light that God shines on your pathway. "He that endureth to the end shall be saved," is what the Word says.

Some may ask, "Why this life-searching message?" Let me say that it is not to try to unChristianize or discourage anyone, but to help you see the necessity of putting forth your best effort to make heaven, as heaven will be cheap at any price. When you stop to think that in many states we are disfellowshipping almost as many as we are taking into the Church, there is need for an alarm to be sounded.

We are filling our altars, and never before in the history of the Church have we taken so many into the Church as we are doing today, but too many are refusing to go on to perfection. They are drawing back, refusing to walk in the light that is shined upon their pathway. The next thing we hear about them is that they have gone into some sin and have been disfellowshipped from the Church, and that is a serious thing, my Friend. Read Matthew 16:19, "Whatsoever thou shall bind on earth shall be bound in heaven: and whatsoever thou shalt loose on earth shall be loosed in heaven."

God recognizes church government, even if you do not. You will meet the decision of that local church when you stand before God, and it will be held against you forever. So be careful, you who are contemplating saying, "Take my name off the church record," because you do not wish to obey the teachings of the Church of God. Many seem to think that it is a small thing to leave the Church, and term what many call backslide. The truth is, you have fallen into the snare of the devil, and there is danger of your falling away unless you repent quickly. We hope there is still a chance; call upon God now, and get back into His call before it is too late, or you will then be eternally separated from the holy and the good.

Fall Semester at LEE COLLEGE Begins

September 6, 1954

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President, Lee College,
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Amusement and Lust

By H. L. MOTSINGER, Creal Springs, Illinois

ANY AMUSEMENT THAT beguiles, diverts, or draws one's attention from God has a tendency to deceive. The greater portion of worldly entertainment misleads and causes an individual to err. In 2 Timothy 3:4 we read, "Traitors, heady, highminded, lovers of pleasures more than lovers of God."

Let us consider some of the great dangers with reference to amusements.

1. They have a tendency to lead one astray and forsake God.
2. They lead to an empty and profitless life.
3. They rob an individual of higher and nobler ambitions.
4. By example, they influence a weak Christian or a sinner to stumble.
5. They bar us from a complete service in Christ.
6. Worldly entertainment leads to vanity which is conceit and idle show.

A Christian should be "CHRISTLIKE," therefore if any amusement seeks to defeat his chief object in life—which is to glorify God—then a big error has been made. "Whether therefore ye eat, or drink, or whatsoever ye do, do all to the glory of God," 1 Corinthians 10:31.

In regard to drinking, note Proverbs 23:20, "Be not among winebibbers; among riotous eaters of flesh." Let us be very careful about our association. "Blessed is the man that walketh not in the counsel of the ungodly, nor standeth in the way of sinners, nor sitteth in the seat of the scornful," Psalm 1:1.

Rejoicing in worldly entertainment will be brought to judgment. I quote in part: "Rejoice, O young man, in thy youth; but know thou, that for all these things God will bring thee into judgment," Ecclesiastes 11:9.

In some instances, feasts and entertainments of the world are ingatherings of fools. "It is better to go to the house of mourning; but the heart of fools is in the house of mirth. It is better to hear the rebuke of the wise, than for a man to hear the song of fools. For as the crackling of thorns under a pot, so is the laughter of the fool: this also is vanity," Ecclesiastes 7:2, 4-6.

Pleasure causes reveling and riotous living. "Whoso keepeth the law is a wise son: but he that is a companion of riotous men shameth his father." Dancing is a pleasure that is very lustful and is surmounted by disgrace and shame. In Matthew 14:6-11 we read where the daughter of Herodias danced before a multitude, and it pleased King Herod. In return, Herod promised the daughter anything she desired, and she, being before instructed of her mother, asked for the head of John the Baptist. Overwhelming statistics have proved that the dance as an amusement has wrecked thousands of homes, and like a maelstrom or whirlpool has swept thousands into hell with its destructive force.

Covetousness by way of amusement leads to greed, graft, and lust. Christ spoke to the disciples in Luke

12:15, "Take heed, and beware of covetousness: for a man's life consisteth not in the abundance of the things which he possesseth."

When a person loves pleasure more than he loves God, he loves his own life far better than he loves Christ. "He that loveth his life shall lose it; and he that hateth his life in this world shall keep it unto life eternal," John 12:25.

Entertainment conforms people to the world. In other words, it makes them walk and act like the world. Note what the scripture says, "And be not conformed to this world: but be ye transformed by the renewing of your mind, that ye may prove what is that good, and acceptable, and perfect, will of God," Romans 12:2. If we pattern after the world and follow the earthly crowd, we are subject to put a stumbling block in a brother's pathway. Read Romans 14:13, 14.

"Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in rioting and drunkenness, not in chambering and wantonness, not in strife and envying," Romans 13:13.

"For if ye live after the flesh, ye shall die: but if ye through the Spirit do mortify the deeds of the body, ye shall live," Romans 8:13.

"Envyings, murders, drunkenness, revellings, and such like: of the which I tell you before, as I have also told you in time past, that they which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God," Galatians 5:21.

Paul writes in Colossians 3:2 that if we love God with our whole heart, our affections will be set on things above and not on the earth. The fifth chapter of James definitely points out the evils of pleasure and the treasures of gold, silver, heaped upon the earth, and what the horrible end will result in.

Lord, help followers of Christ to watch their leisure hours. Some ways are pernicious to the extent that they increase exhaustion of the harassed mind and tired body so that they are not capable of quiet prayer and daily work.

Followers of the Lamb should keep clear of the tavern, movie, bridge, dance, and other amusements that link with worldly lust. It is an evident fact that no Christian can keep the fullness of the Spirit or the love of Jesus and go to such places or engage in any of their pleasures. The closer a person will walk and talk with God, the farther from amusements of the world he will refrain. When a so-called Christian goes to a beer tavern, he has placed himself in a place with individuals that he should have no dealings with. One clergyman has said, "The atmosphere of such places will blight the fairest life, as gas blights tender plants."

In closing, let me urge you to adhere to these writings in God's Holy Writ, "For the grace of God that bringeth salvation hath appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live

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Happiness Not Made by Hands

By RUBY TARRANCE



THE EVENING BEFORE the fatal bombing of Nagasaki, an old Japanese and his son were on their way to the city to peddle their vegetables. They walked along behind the ox-drawn cart. The son was in a hurry to reach Nagasaki that evening so he could be up early the next morning and obtain the top prices for his vegetables. The father would stop by the wayside and admire the wild flowers, much to the son's agitation.

Later, the father stopped to behold the beautiful sunset. He said, "Let's camp here tonight and continue our journey tomorrow." The son reluctantly gave in. Upon reaching the top of the hill at Nagasaki, they learned of the great catastrophe. The Japanese youth shuddered at what his doom might have been, had he let his ambitions rule.

In this materialistic world of time clocks and fast speed, obviously, we, like the Japanese youth, are in a hurry to get somewhere. Many Christians—perhaps you are among them—are aware that they are not receiving as much joy from their salvation as they would like to. Many are asking themselves the sad question, "What has become of the joy that surged through me when I was converted?" They long for that high plain of spiritualism that God has imparted to some.

There can be no such happiness apart from complete submission to the will of God. Often, we must make a choice between materialism and spiritualism. Many are unaware of the fact that they are putting too much emphasis at the altar of materialism.

This is not just a theory, but a fact tried by experience. There is the mother, for example, who was a church worker. Yet she had her eyes set on the shiny gadgets of this world. Ignoring the will of God, she launched out on her own and obtained a job in a factory. Vainly she tried to hold down her job in the factory, her home, and church.

As results, her health was undermined. She had to give up her job in the factory, and her Sunday School class. God has revealed to her through suffering that she was putting too much emphasis on the altar of materialism.

J. B. PRIESTLY said, "We cannot get grace from gadgets. A man may be as unhappy in the spun glass trousers of the future, as he is today in worsted ones. In the bakelite house of the future, the dishes may not break, but the heart can."

The word of God is clear concerning this phase of Christian living. As evidence I invite you to read Luke 6:24-25. "But woe unto you that are rich! for ye have received your consolation. Woe unto you that are full! for ye shall hunger. Woe unto you that laugh now! for ye shall mourn and weep."

The story is told of a railroad magnate, who, in his quest for power, took over railroad after railroad, until, near the end of his life, he had quite a hold on the life of railroads. But he didn't have everything—or even the important things.

One evening, trying to relax in his mansion of a home, he looked across the country and saw a boy happily walking along a dusty road. For the boy that road was a road to happiness. The railroad king wished himself there beside that boy when he groaned in what was almost a prayer, "O God, how did I miss taking over that road?" Taking over railroads and getting rich had led him to a dead end.

It is sad, but true that many in their quest for happiness have missed it by the wayside. Many have realized too late in life that they might have gotten a glimpse of heaven in the budding of God's rose, had they paused by the wayside; or that the notes of his birds fell on deaf ears as they passed by. Others haven't taken time for prayer and meditation.

A dear old lady went for the first time on a railway journey of about fifty miles through an interesting and beautiful region. She had looked forward to this trip with great pleasure. She was to see so much and enjoy it so greatly.

It took her so long to get her basket and parcels arranged, her seat comfortably adjusted, and the shades right, that she was only just settling down to enjoy her trip when the conductor called out the name of her station. Thus she had to get up and hustle out. "Oh, my!" she said, "if I'd only known that we would have been here so soon, I wouldn't have wasted my time fussing."

Are these idle words? "And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: But one thing is needful: and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her," Luke 10:41-42.

Like Mary, some have chosen that good part—the part that shall not be taken away from them. They have resisted the temptations of materialism and found a joy, peace, and happiness far above those whose eyes are purely set on material things.

AS AN ILLUSTRATION there is a Christian woman of my acquaintance, who has carried the responsibility of a small rural church for the past twenty years. She has organized a small ladies' aid society. Without the financial help of that small organization, the windows of that church would be barred up and the church would be dead.

Consequently, she possesses a height of spiritualism that few have achieved. Through her unselfishness she has received the happiness that many have tried to obtain through selfishness, but failed. Strangely too, while it seems that the little church has dominated her whole life, God has blessed her financially.

C. H. Spurgeon said, "You may use the wealth of this
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THE LOST CROWN

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wanted anywhere. His name was cast out as evil. The crown disappeared from his brow, and he alone was to blame. One cannot sin against humanity and keep his crown. It is a bad bargain to sell one's character for gold. Money will not buy the great things of life. No matter how rich you become, your treasure will not compensate for the loss of manhood and the wreck of the soul.

There are other crowns to which I wish to call your attention so that you may see more clearly the secret of dethronement.

There is the crown of moral self-determination. The thing that makes man is the moral directive force which has been committed to his charge. Inspired and helped by the Spirit of God, man is possessed of a power that enables him to do the thing he should, to choose between right and wrong, and to follow the path of that choice to the highlands of character and glorious achievement. There is a splendid power in man who has not sold out his manhood and lost the character which enables him to hold his course in life straight onward toward the best. He is able to do for himself what the wheelman does for the ship. No matter how the winds may blow or the currents of the ocean run, the master of the ship keeps the bow straight toward the harbor he desires to enter.

The man who has not lost his crown is able to keep his course straight onward toward truth and God and the harbor of home, but you have seen those from whom this directive force had departed. Since they were not able to steer the bark of their lives toward the desired haven, they could only drift. They tried hard enough, God knows, but they could not keep off the rocks. They could not steer between Scylla and Charybdis. They could not make headway in the storms that swept them first in one direction and then in another. The sight of such men is most pitiable, but the secret of their failure is fully apparent—the crown of self-determination had fallen from their brows. They had lost the moral directive force without which no life can become sublime. The "Islands of the Blessed" are never reached by drifting, but by a heroic effort to pull the bark of our lives up the stream against adverse currents and contrary winds. When the crown of self-determination has fallen, life cannot fail to be ignoble; it cannot reach the goal; it cannot even sight the "Islands of the Blessed."

THERE IS THE crown of moral judgment.

It is a God-given power somewhat different from that about which I have been speaking. The moral directive force keeps the soul toward the goal of the best, but if that is to be done, there must be some power within us which will be able to determine where the goal of the best lies. That is exactly the thing I mean by moral judgment. You have seen people in whose lives this power of inner discernment was absolutely lacking, never being able to sense the right or wrong, certain of the path they should take, or positive as to what they should do. They always halted between two opinions, undecided when to say "yes" or when to say "no." The chart and compass of the soul had somehow been thrown overboard and lost. They were at their wits' end to know what course was best. The trouble with such people is that they have lost the crown of moral judgment. The compass of spiritual perception has been thrown over-

board. They have lost from their souls another God-given power that made them men. This is not an uncommon sight, for the crown of moral judgment has fallen from many brows.

There is the crown of spiritual desire. Moral self-determination, moral judgment, and spiritual desire are the things that lie at the very heart of the higher life. Spiritual desire is by no means the least of these God-given powers. No soul can ever rise above the plane of its desire. Man almost universally falls below that plane, but never rises above it. The Old Book voices a great and eternal truth when it says, "Out of the heart are the issues of life." The desires and the affections determine absolutely the course of life. As we desire, so we choose. As we choose, so we act. As we act, character is formed, and out of character comes destiny at last; hence, when the desire of good goes out of a soul, all is lost.

The desire of good is the last God-given impulse that vanishes out of man's soul. When that is gone, all hope is gone. Desire is the last crown that falls from the head of a human being. As long as man yearns to be better, there is some hope. When desire for good has died out of man's heart, he crosses the line whose passage is the fixing of destiny for darkness and eternal misery. That crown has not yet fallen from your brow. There is in your soul a desire for good, but you realize that it grows weaker and weaker with the choice of evil that has been made over and over again. Have a care. The crown is becoming tarnished. The desire for good is becoming weaker and weaker. This crown will fall from your brow at last if you do not hold it fast. "Hold that fast which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."

The crown has not fallen from your head, but its luster is diminishing. You must protect it at all cost. Resolve to keep that inheritance of desire with all diligence, for out of it are the issues of life. I have already called your attention to the fact that there is such a thing as moral reaction. Every influence that is begotten of our choice affects every determination of soul life. You cannot choose against good without diminishing the desire for good. You cannot exercise the power of self-determination against the good which your soul craves without weakening the desire for good which you have rejected. Now, failure to choose the good is choice against it. So it comes to pass that indifference is one of the hands that thrusts the crown from you. The desire for good, moral judgment, and self-determination makes the crowns that give glory to life. To have these results in the coronation of character, but when the empire of moral character is abdicated, ruin is complete.

WITH A VISION OF the lost crowns before us, we may well ask for the secret of this great and terrible loss. We shall find it in the text and in the chapter from which it is taken. The fifth chapter of the Lamentations of Jeremiah constitutes one of the finest, as well as one of the most terrible, passages in all literature. How the great, black clouds of degradation, sorrow, and loss are seen to roll forever and forever through the panorama of our vision as we read on through the splendid poem!

The text contains both a declaration of loss and a vision of responsibility. "The crown is fallen from our head" is the declaration of loss. "Woe unto us, that we have sinned" is the vision of responsibility and failure. When we go back over the chapter, we find the secret

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A CROWN OF LIFE

(Continued from page 5)

Man is essentially the same under any form of government; therefore, government must be interested in clearing paths and cutting channels so that the hopes and dreams of man may find free course and be fruitful. Although political faiths can move only some of the obstacles, the shed blood of Christ has cleared the path and has made possible the passageway for fallen man to come back to God, and by sending the Holy Ghost, Christ has made possible for us to pursue victoriously the course of life and win the crown of life in the end.

3. "To afford all an unfettered start and a fair chance in the race of life." The first few years of life practically settle destiny, spiritually as well as materially. This meant, in the mind of Lincoln, wholesome food, adequate shelter and clothing. It meant education and opportunity. We have not yet achieved such a happy state of affairs. Great hosts of our citizens are fettered from the start, handicapped in the race of life by conditions which they did not make and over which they have no control. Mr. Lincoln knew from experience how hard it is to rise above one's environment. He knew that slavery is wrong and that no man, no matter how good, is not good enough to own another human being. He believed that every person should have equal rights with every other person regardless of race or creed. Surely this is what Jesus meant in the passage just quoted: "To set at liberty them that are bruised." Perhaps, in this hour of crucial racial prejudice when the rights of individuals are being challenged, it would be well for us to examine and adjust our own philosophy in regard to our cherished constitutional declaration of "equal rights for all." We should see if we are actually in harmony with what we profess, and if not, we should adjust ourselves accordingly. I believe this great principle is in harmony with the Bible.

LINCOLN BELIEVED in God. His faith grew and flowered during those terrible years of the Presidency until it became the strongest force in his life, as he bore the heavy burden of state. In this time of unbelief, of modernism, we must have a strong faith in the fundamental principles of the Bible, its inspiration, its miracles, and the divinity of Jesus if we are to win the crown of life. "Without faith it is impossible to please God."

Lincoln often referred to the precepts of Christianity, but what is more important, he practiced them. It is not enough to just speak complimentary things about Christ or the Church, but the all-important thing is to practice the principles of Christianity. How many church members and churches are there today that bear the name of Christ but do not keep His commandments? Jesus said, "If ye love me, ye will keep my commandments."

We know that Lincoln was a praying man. Once he told a delegation of ministers that he conceived of prayer as bringing him to the side of God, not as winning God over to his side. He believed in One whom he called "that divine Being" and "the Almighty Architect." If there is anything we, as Christians, are short on today, it is prayer. We cannot win a crown of life without prayer.

When Lincoln lay dead and the country was racked with grief and anxiety, James Garfield addressed from

the balcony of a New York hotel a throng of excited and sorrow-stricken people. "God reigns," he said, "the Government at Washington still lives!" It might profit us today to affirm that the Government as conceived by our fathers lives only as long as it remembers that God reigns.

We have much for which to be thankful in our form of government, not the least of which is our God-given Constitution. The men who drew this instrument loved and feared God and recognized Him as the divine Sovereign over all mankind. Our Government shall continue to live as long as we respect and adhere to the principles of the Constitution; it has brought our Nation through many struggles, wars, and economic crises; it has stood the test of time while others have fallen. Why? Because we have insisted that the Constitution, based on the principles of truth and justice, must be kept. Other nations with well-sounding constitutions have fallen because they failed to respect their constitutions and because they were not basically sound. Russia is a good example of a government that has set aside her constitution, which contains many noble and fine principles. As long as officials in Washington hold sacred the principles of the Constitution of the United States of America, our Government is safe, but if this sacred instrument is scrapped, government of the people by the people for the people will perish, and America will go the way that other totalitarian countries have gone.

CHURCH OF GOD preachers and members, as long as we stand for, preach, and teach the doctrine of the Bible, the doctrines and teachings of the Church of God, and see that they are practiced in our churches, we shall continue to march forward as one strong united army of soldiers for God to the crown of life, promised Christ's Church. If we submit to compromise and become slack concerning these sacred principles, we shall degenerate, backslide, and become just another formal, dead organization along with many others.

President Lincoln did not win the crown of success as President of the United States, because he won the War for the North and preserved the Union, or because of his great intellect and natural talents. These things alone could not have made him live in the memory of the people as he has for these generations. The things that have made him memorable in the minds and hearts of people were his Christian virtues and the fact that he instilled in the hearts of the people the principles of truth and justice. He did not win the name "Honest Abe" by accident, but because he practiced honesty. Those who knew him have ascribed to him the virtues of tolerance, temperance, gentleness, kindness, justice, forgiveness, faithfulness, honesty, humility, long-suffering, and compassion. Certainly these are the fruits of the Spirit, which, if more of us possessed, would help this to be a better world in which to live.

As ministers and members of the Church of God, we need to give to the world a genuine realization of the principles of Christianity and to discharge our spiritual and moral responsibilities faithfully before God. It has devolved upon us to uphold the doctrine and teachings of the Church of God so that it does not become just a scrap of paper, but that the same spirit and power that moved our founding fathers and prevailed in the early Church may carry us on to greater victory and to the crown of life promised to the Church.

Sunday School Has Record Attendance



Mother's Day, May 9, 1954, was a blessed day for the Church of God at Lake Wales, Florida. In Sunday School we enjoyed a new record attendance of 237, counted in the classes. Twenty-nine came at the close of the march for the Mother's Day message which was given by our beloved state overseer, E. L. Simmons. The message was timely, graciously presented, and enjoyed by an audience of approximately 250.

During the morning service, there was an offering received to pay off the last \$2,000 on this beautiful church building. The morning offering amounted to \$1,756.80. Four hundred and fifty dollars was given by the L.W.W.B.; \$178 given by the Y.P.E.; \$265 was paid as pledges on the indebtedness; and \$836.80 was received from the congregation. We yet needed \$343.20 to take care of the \$2,000, plus \$100 interest. In the afternoon service, just before the dedicatory message was given by our overseer, E. L. Simmons, we received an offering of \$201.20 in cash and \$142 in pledges, which brought a total of \$2,100. At the close of the dedicatory message, Brother Simmons presented Brother John C. Thorp, the holder of the mortgage, a check of \$2,100 for principal and interest. Brother Thorp in turn surrendered the mortgage, which was burned by the pastor, L. F. Rogers; district pastor, A. J. Duncan; and E. L. Simmons.

This beautiful building was dedicated free of debt and has a value of \$30,000. The foundation is 40 feet by 60 feet, with full-size basement com-

prising seven nice classrooms and two rest rooms. The beautiful auditorium is nicely furnished with blonde pews, hardwood floors, forty-two grey Samson chairs, very beautiful wine-colored curtains, and a baby grand Lester piano. To the left of the platform is the church office, and to the right is the stairway leading to the basement.

Your reporter contributes this great success to the will of God and the fine congregation of members and friends who worked so faithfully with their fine consecrated, hard working, and progressive pastors from the beginning of the church.

The funds for the present building began under the fine leadership of L. B. Hammond. The building was erected under the leadership of W. B. Sumner. During the pastorate of R. E. Drymon, there was a portion of the finishing done. At the last Assembly, A. J. Duncan came as pastor, but he was here only a few months until he was called away because of the vacancy of another church. It was deemed necessary for him to fill this vacancy. While he was pastor, he also did some of the finishing and made plans for the pews and finishing of the floors.

Because all of the previous pastors did such a fine job with their fine group of members and friends, it wasn't any trouble for us to complete the job that was begun.

This picture was taken at the close of our National Sunday School Contest with 235 present.—L. F. Rogers, Pastor.

reports

SAN JOAQUIN DISTRICT, Calif.—God has wonderfully blessed on the San Joaquin District. Recently, our district put on an all-out drive for souls with a special emphasis on the youth. In this drive we had 153 saved. Every pastor on the district—Jack Hale, Perry Frazee, Kenneth Combs, Marvin Ford, M. H. Grant, Newton Ford, and Howard Dill—worked very hard. Two young evangelists, Dale Davis and Rayburn Purifoy, were especially successful. To God be all the glory for the great outpouring of His Spirit. California is taking her rightful place, and that is at the FRONT! —Linwood Jacobs, District Pastor.

OCALA, Fla.—We are very glad to report victory in Jesus Christ our Lord and success in our efforts at the Church of God in Ocala. On July 11, our Sunday School, which has an average of 83 in attendance, made a record of 116 for which we thank God. Brother George Harley, our pastor, is doing a wonderful work, and the entire church loves him and his family. We have one of the best groups of willing workers that could be found anywhere. They have long ago decided that it is more profitable to wear out than to rust out, and in this way we are meeting our obligations.—R. L. Watson, Reporter.

in memoriam

THOMPSON

Sister Jessie Thompson departed this life on June 25, at the age of 49. She was a devout Christian, and a faithful member of the Church of God in Belton, South Carolina. Her passing caused much loneliness at home, at church, and in the community. She was loved by all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, Brother Hence Thompson, five sons, and a number of brothers and sisters. Her funeral was conducted at the Belton Church of God by her pastor, Brother G. C. Timmerman, Brother Grady L. Waters, and Brother George L. Britt. —Laura Mae Banister.

NEWPORT

Rev. A. T. Newport, a licensed minister in the state of Tennessee, died June 13, 1954.

THE MINISTER'S CALL

(Continued from page 7)

care for as many as six thousand sheep. With their long shepherds' staffs, some six feet long and crooked at one end, fitting a sheep's neck, they slowly and gently lead their sheep to green pastures and abundant water. When day is over, back to the sheepfolds for protection they lead them. These folds have only one door each, and across these doors they make their pallets and sleep. Thus they guard their flocks from wolves and thieves. My, what a beautiful picture! Dear pastors, yours is a great calling, a wonderful privilege. The Chief Shepherd, the Owner of the sheep, has set you over them to feed, to lead, to protect from false prophets, to guard, to bind up their bleeding wounds, and to care for the little lambs. Remember, my brethren, we are to feed and not to fight them. We must have the heart of a real shepherd, the love of a true Nazarene, the patience of Job, and the tenderness of a true mother to be a good shepherd.

I pray this message has been a blessing to you, especially to my brothers in the ministry of our Lord. I praise God for each one of you.

HAPPINESS NOT MADE BY HANDS

(Continued from page 11)

world in the service of the Master. To gain is not wrong. It is only wrong when grasping becomes the main object in life."

This is not to say that materialism can always be measured in terms of dollars and cents. Often it may be our self-pride, popularity or what others say about us. Those who have forgotten self in quest for spiritualism have received happiness that surpasses anything this world can offer.

A Christian man was receiving much opposition. A friend inquired, "How do you take it so calmly?" He answered, "By looking up. First I look down to the small plot of earth that shall be my resting place when my soul has gone on. Then I look up toward heaven and think of that beautiful home that I am sending brick and stone up to build. Then I look about me and see people in worse shoes than I am in."

Those who long for peace and happiness may have it by keeping their wills subordinate to God. He wants not part—but complete surrender to Him.

Let us turn toward the happiness that is eternal—turning from materialism. Does that seem hard? It shouldn't, for an omnipotent God is waiting at the altar—waiting to lend a helping hand.

AMUSEMENT AND LUST

(Continued from page 10)

soberly, righteously, and godly, in this present world," Titus 2:11, 12.

"Love not the world, neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him. For all that is in the world, the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life, is not of the Father, but is of the world," 1 John 2:15, 16.

My prayer is that you have a closer walk with Jesus each day you live.

THE LOST CROWN

(Continued from page 12)

of this terrible loss which is bewailed by the poet. How the sentences rise like mountain peaks, one above the other! What a picture of degradation they present to us! "Our inheritance is turned to strangers, our houses to aliens. We are orphans and fatherless, our mothers are as widows. We have drunken our water for money; our wood is sold unto us. Our necks are under persecution: we labor, and have no rest. We have given the land to the Egyptians, and to the Assyrians, to be satisfied with bread. Servants have ruled over us: there is none that doth deliver us out of their hand. We gat our bread with the peril of our lives because of the sword of the wilderness. Our skin was black like an oven because of the terrible famine. Princes are hanged up by their hand: the faces of elders were not honored. They took the young men to grind, and the children fell under the wood. The elders have ceased from the gate, the young men from their music. The joy of our heart is ceased; our dance is turned into mourning," Lamentations 5:2-6, 8-10, 12-15.

That is a black picture, and the sequel is to be found in the words "The crown is fallen from our head, woe unto us, that we have sinned." Here, too, is the secret of the lost crown. There is no crown on the brow of the man who will not give up his sin. It was sin that robbed the young man whom we saw on the street of his crown of intelligence, self-respect, and manhood. It was sin that robbed the young preacher of his crown of confidence, usefulness, and love. It was sin that stole the crown from the brow of the banker about whom we thought a few moments ago. Sin forever steals away the crowns of moral health, self-respect and honor, confidence and hope. Unrepented sin is the world's greatest highwayman.

Pause for a moment and think. All the wealth of God, all the glory of Christian character, all the power of spirituality, all of the deep and soul-satisfying pleasure of heaven are within your reach. Will you claim the crown that has fallen from your brow and which can be replaced only by the hand of Jesus? Will you ask Him to help you reconquer yourself? Will you accept the royalty of heaven's kingdom and become rich in the treasures that can never fade away? Everything rests with you. Destiny may be determined by the choice you make tonight. The crown has fallen in the dust. Ask Jesus Christ to help you regain it and accept at His hand the imperial royalty which He will be glad to give. That will be a coronation worth-while that will bring glory that will never fade.

The outside of the plain white house was rather stark and uninviting. Inside was the warmth of a vibrant personality. A small, white-haired woman, her cheerful face softly furrowed by her eighty-odd years, sat waiting for her distinguished son. A neighbor dropped by to bring in a dish of Pennsylvania Dutch "puddin' meat," which she had prepared especially for the home-coming.

"You must be proud of your famous son, Mrs. Eisenhower," said the neighbor.

With sparks flashing from dimmed blue eyes, Mrs. Eisenhower replied, "Which one?"—From *MOTHERS OF AMERICA*, by Elizabeth Logan Davis (Fleming H. Revell Company).



Church Signs . .

We have been receiving many inquiries in regard to the new church signs. They have finally arrived and are now ready for shipment. We only have five hundred of these signs, and of course, the first five hundred orders which we receive will be filled. These are the large road signs.

You may apply this on your account for \$8.00 per sign, prepaid. If you send cash with your order, they will be shipped prepaid for \$7.00 each. You should order immediately so your order will be among the first to be filled. This sign is changed slightly in design from picture.

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